ESTTA Tracking number:

ESTTA496464 09/25/2012

Filing date:

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

### **Petition for Cancellation**

Notice is hereby given that the following party requests to cancel indicated registration.

### **Petitioner Information**

Name	TracFone Wireless, Inc.		
Entity	Corporation	Citizenship	Delaware
Address	9700 NW 112 Avenue Miami, FL 33178 UNITED STATES		

Attorney information	Candice Kim Greenberg Traurig, LLP 1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900 Los Angeles, CA 90067 UNITED STATES
	latm2@gtlaw.com, dcipmail@gtlaw.com, wadykas@gtlaw.com Phone:(310) 586-7700

### Registration Subject to Cancellation

Registration No	3288448	Registration date	09/04/2007
International Registration No.	NONE	International Registration Date	NONE
Registrant	fitage GmbH Zur Waldau 15 68239 Mannho GERMANY	eim	

### Goods/Services Subject to Cancellation

Class 009.

All goods and services in the class are cancelled, namely: Telephones and mobile phones

### **Grounds for Cancellation**

Abandonment	Trademark Act section 14
-------------	--------------------------

Attachments	petition.pdf ( 20 pages )(181981 bytes )

### **Certificate of Service**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of this paper has been served upon all parties, at their address record by First Class Mail on this date.

Signature	/cek/
-----------	-------

Name	Candice Kim
Date	09/25/2012

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

In the Matter of Registration No. 3,288,448 For the mark: BIG EASY Registered September 4, 2007		
TRACFONE WIRELESS, INC.,	)	
Petitioner,	) )	Cancellation No.:
v.	)	
FITAGE GMBH,	)	
Respondent.	)	

### PETITION FOR CANCELLATION

Petitioner TracFone Wireless, Inc. ("Petitioner"), a Delaware corporation, having a principal place of business at 9700 N.W. 112th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33178, believes that it has been and will continue to be damaged by the continued registration of the mark that is the subject of Registration No. 3,288,448 and hereby petitions for cancellation of the same.

The grounds for cancellation are as follows:

- 1. Petitioner has a pending application Ser. No. 85/651,098, filed June 13, 2012, for the mark THE BIG EASY covering "electronic communications equipment, namely, cellular telephones and prepaid air time cellular telephones" in Class 9 (the "Application"). Attached as <u>Exhibit A</u> is a copy of the Application and accompanying TARR status report.
- 2. According to the records available at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO"), Respondent Fitage GmbH ("Respondent"), a German limited liability company, having a principal place of business at Zur Waldau 15, 68239 Mannheim, Federal Republic of Germany, maintains Reg. No. 3,288,448 for the mark BIG EASY (the "Respondent's Mark") covering "telephones and mobile phones" in Class 9 (the "Registration").

3. On September 18, 2012, the PTO issued an Office Action against Petitioner's

Application refusing registration based upon a likelihood of confusion with Respondent's Registration.

Attached as Exhibit B is a copy of the Office Action.

4. On information and belief, Respondent went out of business on or around September 20,

2010, and no longer exists.

5. On information and belief, Respondent's Registration was not assigned prior to

Respondent's going out of business, Respondent is not using and has not used Respondent's Mark in

commerce since at least as early as September 20, 2010, and has discontinued use of Respondent's Mark

without an intent to resume such use. Accordingly, Respondent's mark BIG EASY has been abandoned.

6. For the reasons set forth herein, Petitioner believes and asserts that the continued

registration of Respondent's BIG EASY mark for the goods identified therein has caused and will

continue to cause damage to Petitioner.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays that U.S. Registration No. 3,288,448 be cancelled and that this

Petition for Cancellation be sustained in favor of Petitioner.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 25, 2012

Steven J. Wadyka, Jr.

Candice E. Kim

GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP

1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900

Los Angeles, California 90067

Tel: (310) 586-3867

Fax: (310) 586-0567

latm2@gtlaw.com

dcipmail@gtlaw.com

Attorneys for Petitioner

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I served a copy of the foregoing PETITION FOR CANCELLATION upon Respondent by depositing one copy thereof to Federal Express, postage prepaid, on September 25, 2012, addressed as follows:

Fitage GmbH Zur Waldau 15 68239 Mannheim Federal Republic of Germany

Cool-6.

# Exhibit A

### **Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register**

**Serial Number: 85651098 Filing Date: 06/13/2012** 

### The table below presents the data as entered.

Input Field	Entered	
SERIAL NUMBER	85651098	
MARK INFORMATION		
*MARK	THE BIG EASY	
STANDARD CHARACTERS	YES	
USPTO-GENERATED IMAGE	YES	
LITERAL ELEMENT	THE BIG EASY	
MARK STATEMENT	The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.	
REGISTER	Principal	
APPLICANT INFORMATION		
*OWNER OF MARK	TracFone Wireless, Inc.	
*STREET	9700 NW 112 Avenue	
*CITY	Miami	
*STATE (Required for U.S. applicants)	Florida	
*COUNTRY	United States	
*ZIP/POSTAL CODE (Required for U.S. applicants only)	33178	
LEGAL ENTITY INFORMATION		
ТУРЕ	corporation	
STATE/COUNTRY OF INCORPORATION	Delaware	
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES AND BASIS INFORMATION		
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	009	
	Electronic communications equipment,	

*IDENTIFICATION	namely, cellular telephones and prepaid air time cellular telephones.	
FILING BASIS	SECTION 1(b)	
ATTORNEY INFORMATION		
NAME	Manuel Valcarcel, Esq.	
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER	027207.031900	
FIRM NAME	Greenberg Traurig, P.A.	
STREET	333 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 4400	
CITY	Miami	
STATE	Florida	
COUNTRY	United States	
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	33131	
PHONE	3055790812	
FAX	3059615812	
EMAIL ADDRESS	ipmiami@gtlaw.com	
AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE VIA EMAIL	Yes	
CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION		
NAME	Manuel Valcarcel, Esq.	
FIRM NAME	Greenberg Traurig, P.A.	
STREET	333 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 4400	
CITY	Miami	
STATE	Florida	
COUNTRY	United States	
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	33131	
PHONE	3055790812	
FAX	3059615812	
EMAIL ADDRESS	ipmiami@gtlaw.com	
AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE VIA EMAIL	Yes	
FEE INFORMATION		
NUMBER OF CLASSES	1	
FEE PER CLASS	325	

*TOTAL FEE DUE	325	
*TOTAL FEE PAID	325	
SIGNATURE INFORMATION		
SIGNATURE	/koh/	
SIGNATORY'S NAME	Kenneth H. Oh, Esq.	
SIGNATORY'S POSITION	Corporate Counsel-Intellectual Property	
DATE SIGNED	06/13/2012	

### Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

**Serial Number: 85651098 Filing Date: 06/13/2012** 

### **To the Commissioner for Trademarks:**

MARK: THE BIG EASY (Standard Characters, see mark)

The literal element of the mark consists of THE BIG EASY.

The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.

The applicant, TracFone Wireless, Inc., a corporation of Delaware, having an address of 9700 NW 112 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33178
United States

requests registration of the trademark/service mark identified above in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the Principal Register established by the Act of July 5, 1946 (15 U.S.C. Section 1051 et seq.), as amended, for the following:

International Class 009: Electronic communications equipment, namely, cellular telephones and prepaid air time cellular telephones.

Intent to Use: The applicant has a bona fide intention to use or use through the applicant's related company or licensee the mark in commerce on or in connection with the identified goods and/or services. (15 U.S.C. Section 1051(b)).

The applicant's current Attorney Information:

Manuel Valcarcel, Esq. of Greenberg Traurig, P.A.

333 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 4400

Miami, Florida 33131

**United States** 

The attorney docket/reference number is 027207.031900.

The applicant's current Correspondence Information:

Manuel Valcarcel, Esq.

Greenberg Traurig, P.A.

333 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 4400

Miami, Florida 33131

3055790812(phone)

3059615812(fax)

ipmiami@gtlaw.com (authorized)

A fee payment in the amount of \$325 has been submitted with the application, representing payment for 1 class(es).

#### **Declaration**

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements, and the like, may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting registration, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this application on behalf of the applicant; he/she believes the applicant to be the owner of the trademark/service mark sought to be registered, or, if the application is being filed under 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(b), he/she believes applicant to be entitled to use such mark in commerce; to the best of his/her knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use the mark in commerce, either in the identical form thereof or in such near resemblance thereto as to be likely, when used on or in connection with the goods/services of such other person, to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive; and that all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true; and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /koh/ Date Signed: 06/13/2012 Signatory's Name: Kenneth H. Oh, Esq.

Signatory's Position: Corporate Counsel-Intellectual Property

RAM Sale Number: 16907

RAM Accounting Date: 06/14/2012

Serial Number: 85651098

Internet Transmission Date: Wed Jun 13 18:00:08 EDT 2012 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/BAS-72.37.249.44-20120613180008562

772-85651098-490e4f923fa64b63c9b51afea8b fb7f91-DA-16907-20120613170000364004

# THE BIG EASY

Generated on: This page was generated by TSDR on 2012-09-24 18:25:08 EST

Mark: THE BIG EASY

### THE BIG EASY

US Serial Application Filing Date:

85651098

Application Jun. 13, 2012

**Register:** Principal

Mark Type: Trademark

A non-final Office action has been sent (issued) to the applicant. This is a letter from the examining attorney requiring additional information and/or making an

**Status:** initial refusal. The applicant must respond to this Office action. To view all

documents in this file, click on the Trademark Document Retrieval link at the top

of this page.

**Status Date:** Sep. 18, 2012

### **Mark Information**

Mark Literal THE BIG EASY Elements:

**Standard** Yes. The mark consists of standard characters without claim to any particular

**Character Claim:** font style, size, or color.

Mark Drawing

Type: 4 - STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

### **Goods and Services**

#### Note:

The following symbols indicate that the registrant/owner has amended the goods/services:

- Brackets [..] indicate deleted goods/services;
- Double parenthesis ((..)) identify any goods/services not claimed in a Section 15 affidavit of incontestability; and
- Asterisks \*..\* identify additional (new) wording in the goods/services.

For: Electronic communications equipment, namely, cellular telephones and prepaid

air time cellular telephones

International Class: 009 - Primary Class U.S Class: 021, 023, 026, 036, 038

**Class Status: ACTIVE** 

> 1(b) Basis:

### **Basis Information (Case Level)**

Filed Use: No Amended Use: No **Currently Use:** No

Filed ITU: Yes **Currently ITU:** Yes Amended ITU: No

Filed 44D: No **Currently 44D:** No Amended 44D: No

Filed 44E: No **Currently 44E:** No Amended 44E: No

Filed 66A: No **Currently 66A:** No

**Currently No** Filed No Basis: No No Basis:

### **Current Owner(s) Information**

TracFone Wireless, Inc. **Owner Name:** 

9700 NW 112 Avenue

Owner Address: Miami, FLORIDA 33178

**UNITED STATES** 

**Legal Entity** 

Type:

**CORPORATION** 

**State or Country** 

**DELAWARE** Where

Organized:

### **Attorney/Correspondence Information**

### **Attorney of Record**

**Attorney Name:** Manuel Valcarcel, Esq. Docket Number: 027207.03190

Correspondent

MANUEL VALCARCEL, ESQ.

GREENBERG TRAURIG, P.A.

Correspondent 333 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS STE 4400 Name/Address:

MIAMI, FLORIDA 33131-2184

**UNITED STATES** 

Phone: 3055790812 Fax: 3059615812

Correspondent e-

Correspondent eipmiami@gtlaw.com Yes mail: mail Authorized:

**Domestic Representative - Not Found** 

### **Prosecution History**

Date	Description	Proceeding Number
Sep. 18, 2012	NOTIFICATION OF NON-FINAL ACTION E-MAILED	6325
Sep. 18, 2012	NON-FINAL ACTION E-MAILED	6325
Sep. 18, 2012	NON-FINAL ACTION WRITTEN	76151
Sep. 18, 2012	ASSIGNED TO EXAMINER	76151
Jun. 21, 2012	NEW APPLICATION OFFICE SUPPLIED DATA ENTERED IN TRAM	
Jun. 16, 2012	NEW APPLICATION ENTERED IN TRAM	

### **TM Staff and Location Information**

### **TM Staff Information**

TM Attorney: WILLIS, PAMELA Y

Law Office
Assigned:

LAW OFFICE 106

### **File Location**

TMEG LAW OFFICE 106 -

Current Location: EXAMINING ATTORNEY Date in Location: Sep. 18, 2012

**ASSIGNED** 

# Exhibit B

**To:** TracFone Wireless, Inc. (<u>ipmiami@gtlaw.com</u>)

Subject: U.S. TRADEMARK APPLICATION NO. 85651098 - THE BIG EASY -

027207.03190

**Sent:** 9/18/2012 4:54:34 PM

**Sent As:** ECOM106@USPTO.GOV

**Attachments:** Attachment - 1

Attachment - 2

### UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO) OFFICE ACTION (OFFICIAL LETTER) ABOUT APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 85651098

**MARK**: THE BIG EASY

\*85651098\*

#### **CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:**

MANUEL VALCARCEL, ESQ. GREENBERG TRAURIG, P.A. 333 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS STE 4400 MIAMI, FL 33131-2184 CLICK HERE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETT! http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response\_forms.j

**APPLICANT**: TracFone Wireless, Inc.

CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET NO:

027207.03190

**CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:** 

ipmiami@gtlaw.com

### **OFFICE ACTION**

### STRICT DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER

TO AVOID ABANDONMENT OF APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION, THE USPTO MUST RECEIVE APPLICANT'S COMPLETE RESPONSE TO THIS LETTER **WITHIN 6 MONTHS** OF THE ISSUE/MAILING DATE BELOW.

**ISSUE/MAILING DATE: 9/18/2012** 

The referenced application has been reviewed by the assigned trademark examining attorney. Applicant must respond timely and completely to the issue(s) below. 15 U.S.C. §1062(b); 37 C.F.R. §§2.62(a), 2.65(a); TMEP §§711, 718.03.

### **Refusal to Register: Likelihood of Confusion**

Registration of the applied-for mark is refused because of a likelihood of confusion with the mark in U.S. Registration No. 3288448. Trademark Act Section 2(d), 15 U.S.C. §1052(d); see TMEP §§1207.01 et seq. See the enclosed registration.

Trademark Act Section 2(d) bars registration of an applied-for mark that so resembles a registered mark that it is likely that a potential consumer would be confused or mistaken or deceived as to the source of the goods and/or services of the applicant and registrant. *See* 15 U.S.C. §1052(d). The court in *In re E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.*, 476 F.2d 1357, 177 USPQ 563 (C.C.P.A. 1973) listed the principal factors to be considered when determining whether there is a likelihood of confusion under Section 2(d). *See* TMEP §1207.01. However, not all of the factors are necessarily relevant or of equal weight, and any one factor may be dominant in a given case, depending upon the evidence of record. *In re Majestic Distilling Co.*, 315 F.3d 1311, 1315, 65 USPQ2d 1201, 1204 (Fed. Cir. 2003); *see In re E. I. du Pont*, 476 F.2d at 1361-62, 177 USPQ at 567.

In this case, the following factors are the most relevant: similarity of the marks, similarity of the goods and/or services, and similarity of trade channels of the goods and/or services. *See In re Opus One, Inc.*, 60 USPQ2d 1812 (TTAB 2001); *In re Dakin's Miniatures Inc.*, 59 USPQ2d 1593 (TTAB 1999); *In re Azteca Rest. Enters., Inc.*, 50 USPQ2d 1209 (TTAB 1999); TMEP §§1207.01 *et seq.* 

#### **Facts**

The applicant has applied to register the mark THE BIG EASY for "Electronic communications equipment, namely, cellular telephones and prepaid air time cellular telephones," in International Class 9. The registered mark is BIG EASY for "telephones and mobile phones," in International Class 9.

### Comparison of Marks

Applicant's mark and the registered mark are similar in sound, appearance, and commercial impression. Both marks include the terms "big" and "easy" which are spelled the same and presented in the same sequence in each instance. As such, the marks look essentially the same, and produce nearly the same sound when spoken aloud. The commercial impression created by the marks is similar in that the shared phrase BIG EASY appears to be suggestive of a feature of the goods that the respective marks identify. Consumers would experience confusion when speaking about or observing the marks based upon the similarities detailed above.

### Similarities of Goods

In addition to possessing nearly identical marks, applicant and registrant use their marks to identify similar goods. Cellular telephones (applicant's goods) and mobile telephones (registrant's goods) are basically the same type of goods. Both goods are used to communicate with people, and are portable. As such, consumers would encounter them in the same trade channels, and upon seeing or hearing nearly identical marks identifying those goods, consumers would experience confusion as to the source.

The overriding concern is not only to prevent buyer confusion as to the source of the goods, but to protect the registrant from adverse commercial impact due to use of a similar mark by a newcomer. *See In re Shell Oil Co.*, 992 F.2d 1204, 1208, 26 USPQ2d 1687, 1690 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Therefore, any doubt regarding a likelihood of confusion determination is resolved in favor of the registrant. TMEP

§1207.01(d)(i); see Hewlett-Packard Co. v. Packard Press, Inc., 281 F.3d 1261, 1265, 62 USPQ2d 1001, 1003 (Fed. Cir. 2002); In re Hyper Shoppes (Ohio), Inc., 837 F.2d 463, 464-65, 6 USPQ2d 1025, 1025 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

The similarities of the marks and the goods are so great as to cause a likelihood of confusion among consumers. Therefore, registration is refused based upon Trademark Act Section 2(d).

Although applicant's mark has been refused registration, applicant may respond to the refusal by submitting evidence and arguments in support of registration.

### **Response Guidelines**

There is no required format or form for responding to an Office action. The Office recommends applicants use the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) to respond to Office actions online at <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/teas/index.html">http://www.uspto.gov/teas/index.html</a>. However, if applicant responds on paper via regular mail, the response should include the title "Response to Office Action" and the following information: (1) the name and law office number of the examining attorney, (2) the serial number and filing date of the application, (3) the mailing date of this Office action, (4) applicant's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (if applicable), and (5) the mark. 37 C.F.R. §2.194(b)(1); TMEP §302.03(a).

The response must be personally signed or the electronic signature manually entered by applicant or someone with legal authority to bind applicant (i.e., a corporate officer of a corporate applicant, the equivalent of an officer for unincorporated organizations or limited liability company applicants, a general partner of a partnership applicant, each applicant for applications with multiple individual applicants). TMEP §§605.02, 712.

/Pamela Y. Willis/ Pamela Y. Willis Trademark Examining Attorney Law Office 106 571-272-9335 pam.willis1@uspto.gov

TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER: Go to <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response\_forms.jsp">http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response\_forms.jsp</a>. Please wait 48-72 hours from the issue/mailing date before using TEAS, to allow for necessary system updates of the application. For *technical* assistance with online forms, e-mail <a href="mailto:TEAS@uspto.gov">TEAS@uspto.gov</a>. For questions about the Office action itself, please contact the assigned trademark examining attorney. E-mail communications will not be accepted as responses to Office actions; therefore, do not respond to this Office action by e-mail.

All informal e-mail communications relevant to this application will be placed in the official application record.

**WHO MUST SIGN THE RESPONSE:** It must be personally signed by an individual applicant or someone with legal authority to bind an applicant (i.e., a corporate officer, a general partner, all joint applicants). If an applicant is represented by an attorney, the attorney must sign the response.

**PERIODICALLY CHECK THE STATUS OF THE APPLICATION:** To ensure that applicant does not miss crucial deadlines or official notices, check the status of the application every three to four months using Trademark Applications and Registrations Retrieval (TARR) at <a href="http://tarr.uspto.gov/">http://tarr.uspto.gov/</a>. Please keep a copy of the complete TARR screen. If TARR shows no change for more than six months, call 1-800-786-9199. For more information on checking status, see <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/">http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/</a>.

**TO UPDATE CORRESPONDENCE/E-MAIL ADDRESS:** Use the TEAS form at http://www.uspto.gov/teas/eTEASpageE.htm.

Print: Sep 18, 2012 79034292

### **DESIGN MARK**

### Serial Number

79034292

#### Status

REGISTERED

### **Word Mark**

BIG EASY

### Standard Character Mark

Yes

### **Registration Number**

3288448

### **Date Registered**

2007/09/04

### Type of Mark

TRADEMARK

### Register

PRINCIPAL

### **Mark Drawing Code**

(4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

#### Owner

fitage GmbH LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY FED REP GERMANY Zur Waldau 15 68239 Mannheim FED REP GERMANY

#### Goods/Services

Class Status -- ACTIVE. IC 009. US 021 023 026 036 038. G & S: Telephones and mobile phones.

### **Priority Date**

2006/06/16

### Filing Date

2006/11/27

### **Examining Attorney**

GOLD, BARBARA

# BIGEASY